Faculty,

Happy New Year and welcome back (almost) to campus. Everyone in the Provost's Office hopes you had a restful and healthy break. Here are a few reminders for the upcoming semester:

**Face Masks:** Currently, everyone (no exceptions) is required to wear face masks in classrooms, laboratories, and all indoor academic facilities except when eating, drinking, or alone. For details go [here](#). You can set your eating and drinking policies for your classes in your syllabi.

**Updated Policies:** Please familiarize yourself with the new [Snow Day](#) and [Academic Integrity](#) policies that were updated last fall.

**Class Modality:** All courses must be taught in the modality in which they are listed in the [master schedule](#). If no modality is listed it is by default an in-person class. Changes in modalities from a course’s traditionally offered modality must be approved by the chair/program director and the dean prior to student registration and identified as such on the master schedule. Faculty can not move their classes online unless they are required by a health care professional to isolate or quarantine following the official [University policy](#) or if they are on official University (or professional) travel approved by their department chair/program director. In all cases the department chair/program director must approve the temporarily moving of classes online.

**Faculty Isolating/Quarantining:** Please contact your department chair/program director if you are required to do so. You may, with your chair’s (program director’s) permission, move your class temporarily online only with an official positive test or directive to isolate by a health care professional following [Villanova’s official policy](#). You may also choose other options such as recording lectures, providing materials, have a colleague fill in, etc. Always consult your chair/program director as some courses (labs, clinicals, etc.) may require special attention. Also, notify the students as soon as possible about the change.

**Students Isolating/Quarantining:** These are considered excused absence and there is no penalty for missing classes. Students can make up the work, be given equivalent alternative assignments, or be given make up assessments or online assessments. In addition if they are unable to complete work on time due to illness they should be given reasonable extensions. Please consult with your department chair/program director if you have any questions or reach out to me. Furthermore, you are to provide students in isolation or quarantine with the class content and this can be done by many ways and the option is yours as the faculty in charge of the class. Some options are:

- With permission of the chair and dean you can allow these students to participate in your class by Zoom, but are not required to do so. Please design your class activities to function well with this option.
- You can record your class via MediaSite in the classroom if available or using Zoom on your laptop and provide the recording to the student who can follow up with any questions they have.
- You can provide lecture slides, notes, or other course material for them.
- Other suitable options of your design.
Class Attendance + Occasional Virtual Access: Remember that the official University attendance policy is still in affect along with the additional exceptions for covid/quarantining/isolating (see above). There is a strong desire from the students to be allowed to participate online for an in-person class under specific circumstances (feeling ill, traveling for an official University purpose, attending an interview, etc.). Faculty must seek permission of their chair/program director and dean prior to the start of the semester to allow students in an in-person class to attend online and are not required to allow this option. It is also best to explain the reasoning to your students about your choice for this option. VITAL can assist you with planning for online participants.

Villanova Integrated Academics: Proposals for new cross-college and team taught courses are due by February 18, 2022.

DUO: All faculty will be required to use DUO multifactor authentication beginning January 25, 2022 to access most Villanova systems from off campus. Please sign up now if you have not already done so. Details are here.

Student Success: Beyond the content and skills you teach your students, faculty have been shown to have a huge impact on student success. A study (Gallop-Purdue) of 30,000 college gradautes found that those who are most successful (by a variety of measures including well being) had six common elements of emotional support and experiential learning in college (see below). As we continue in this pandemic it is critical that we double down on the personalized attention and caring we, as Villanova faculty, have always shown. Keep up the great work!

- a professor who made them excited about learning
- professors who cared about them as a person
- a mentor who encouraged them to pursue their goals and dreams
- worked on a long-term project
- had a job or internship where they applied what they were learning
- were extremely involved in extra-curricular activities

I wish everyone a great start of the semester. Thank you for all your continued hard work and support of our students. As always please reach out with any questions at any time.

Randy Weinstein
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